

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 SAJ-01 EB-07 COME-00 /073 W

----- 002282

R 170850Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 298

INFO CINCPAC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK BY POUCH

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU BY POUCH

AMCONSUL MANDALAY BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI BY POUCH

USLO PEKING BY POUCH

AMCONSUL UDORN BY POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, BM

SUBJECT: JOINT WEEKA #35

1. NE WIN'S TRAVELS (LOU)

PRESS ANNOUNCED AFTER THE FACT THAT PRESIDENT NE WIN VISITED UPPER BURMA SEPT 11-14; HE LAST TOURED UPPER BURMA IN APRIL. PURPOSE OF THIS TRIP APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN INSPECTION OF MARBLE QUARRY AT MAD-AYA, GEM MINES AT MOGOK AND EARTHQUAKE DAMAGE AT PAGAN. RUMORS CONTINUE TO CIRCULATE THAT HE WILL SOON TRAVEL ABROAD, INCLUDING SUCH PLACES AS PEKING, MOSCOW AND EVEN THE U.S. (FOR HEALTH PURPOSES).

2. DPRK AGRICULTURAL MINISTER VISITS (LOU)

A FOUR MAN NORTH KOREAN AGRICULTURAL DELEGATION HEADED BY JON SONG
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HWAN IS CURRENTLY VISITING RANGOON AND HAS MET WITH FOREIGN MIN-

ISTER HLA PHONE AS WELL AS TRADE AND INDUSTRY OFFICIALS. ACCORD-
ING TO AN ROK EMBASSY SOURCE, THIS GROUP WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED
TO VISIT BURMA IN JULY BUT THE TRIP WAS DELAYED TO AVOID CONFLICT
WITH THE DPRK SPECIAL ENVOY WHO VISITED BURMA TO SEEK GUB SUPPORT
FOR NORTH KOREAN ADMISSION TO THE NAC. THE AGRICULTURAL MISSION
COULD BE THE RESULT OF AN OFFER REPORTEDLY MADE BY KIM IL SING TO
A BURMESE TRADE DELEGATION SOME MONTHS AGO FOR TECHNICAL ASSIST-
ANCE IN THE FIELD OF IRRIGATION.

3. LAW AND ORDER CAMPAIGN CONTINUES (UNCLAS)

THE LAW AND ORDER CAMPAIGN IN ITS VARIOUS FACETS CONTINUED LAST
WEEK. LOCAL PAVEMENTS WERE CLEARED OF SIDEWALK HAWKERS, ADDING
SOMEWHAT TO RANGOON'S UNEMPLOYMENT; RANGOON-WIDE CLEAN UP CAMPAIGN
INITIATED WITH 10,000 "VOLUNTEERS" INCLUDING 6,000 TROOPS AND
2,000 POLICE; SEVERAL ANTI-CORRUPTION ACTIONS WERE OPENED; AND
OVER 100 PEOPLE WERE JAILED FOR MINOR CRIMES.

4. EDIBLE OIL PUZZLE (LOU)

AS PART OF RECENT ATTEMPT TO FORCE DOWN EDIBLE OIL PRICES, RANGOON
COMMAND HEADQUARTERS SEPT 10 ISSUED ITS ORDER ON SUBJECT. (RANGOON
REMAINS UNDER MILITARY ADMINISTRATION). PUZZLE IS THAT WHOLESALE
PRICES SET BY ORDER ARE AT LEVEL WHICH WOULD APPEAR TO GUARANTEE
RETAIL PRICES BELOW CONTROLLED LEVEL OF 23 KYATS PER VISS. SINCE
GUB HAS BEEN UNABLEE TO DATE TO OBTAIN FREE MARKET EDIBLE OIL
PRICES ANYWHERE NEAR CONTROLLED LEVELS (COOKING OIL IS NOT AVAIL-
ABLE ON FREE MARKET; BLACK MARKET PRICE IS CURRENTLY OVER 40 KYATS
PER VISS), IT IS HARD TO UNDERSTAND WHAT RANGOON COMMAND HEAD-
QUARTERS HOPES TO ACHIEVE BY ISSUING ORDER.

5. POPULATION PLANNING IN THE OFFING? (LOU)

FOLLOWING PRESIDENT NE WIN'S SPEECH TO THE BSPP CENTRAL COMMITTEE
SOME MONTHS AGO IN WHICH HE CITED NEED TO BALANCE POPULATION WITH
ECONOMIC GROWTH, HEALTH MINISTRY HAS SET UP THREE MAN COMMITTEE
TO STUDY PROS AND CONS OF POPULATION PROGRAM. IN WHAT WHO REPRE-
SENTATIVES REGARD AS A SIGNIFICANT BREAKTHROUGH, COMMITTEE HAS
NOW BEEN PERMITTED TO ATTEND WHO SPONSORED SEMINAR ON POPULATION
PLANNING TO BE HELD IN BANGKOK IN OCTOBER. COMMITTEE WILL REPORT
BACK TO HEALTH MINISTER AND CABINET; IF THE DECISION IS TO MOVE
FORWARD IN THIS HITHERTO FORBIDDEN AREA, WHO MAY FOLLOW WITH
TRAINING AND OBSERVATION TOURS ABROAD FOR RANKING HEALTH MINISTRY
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6. F-28 BACK ON TRACK? (LOU)

FOKKER REPRESENTATIVES ARE REPORTEDLY IN TOWN IN ANOTHER EFFORT
TO SELL A USED F-28 TO SUPPLEMENT UBA'S ONE AIRCRAFT JET FLEET.
NEW WRINKLE IN THE DEAL IS AN ALLEGED OFFER TO TAKE UBA'S TWO
AGING VISCOUNTS AS DOWNPAYMENT.

7. NARCOTICS (UNCLAS)

UN TRAINING FOR BURMESE POLICE. U THA AUNG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PEOPLE'S POLICE FORCE, RECENTLY INFORMED EMBOFF THAT GUB WILL SEND INVESTIGATOR U THA U TO GENEVA FOR ADVANCED TRAINING IN NARCOTICS-ORIENTED COURSE. U THA U IS BEING GROOMED FOR MORE SENIOR POSITION IN PPF ANTI-NARCOTICS WORK; HE HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE LEADING RANGOON POLICE IN RAIDS, ARRESTS, AND SEIZURES IN RECENT MONTHS.

8. PRESENTATION OF SATELLITE PHOTOS (UNCLAS)

CHARGE' SEPTEMBER 9 PRESENTED BURMESE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DEPARTMENT WITH 100 PHOTO NEGATIVES OF BURMA TAKEN BY THE US ERTS SATELLITE. PHOTOS WERE PREPARED AS A RESULT OF WORK DONE BY TWO BURMESE GEOLOGY STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED AN ERTS SEMINAR IN THE U.S. UNDER USIS AUSPICES IN 1974.

9. SO THAT F#92 85 8 (UNCLAS)

GUARDIAN NEWSPAPER SEPT 11 HEADLINED ITS ACCOUNT OF UNGA SPEECH BY SINGAPORE FOREIGN MINISTER RAJARATNAM "RICH NATIONS SHOULD BE LESS GREEDY." ONLY BY READING ARTICLE DID ONE DISCOVER THAT RAJARATNAM HAD ALSO SAID THAT POOR COUNTRIES SHOULD WORK HARDER. HOWARTH

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